# **Dictionary**

California Education and the Environment Initiative









Energy: It's Not All the Same to You!

# **Dictionary**

#### benefit

The gain or improvement resulting from an action.



### **byproduct**

Something produced when something else is made or consumed.



# C

#### conserve

To use a resource in such a way that it is not wasted, lost, or damaged.







#### conversion

The process of changing one form of energy to another, such as the conversion of chemical energy to heat and light when fuel is burned.



#### cost

The amount of money, time, or effort required to achieve a goal.



# efficiency

Operating with the least possible waste of energy, material, time, or effort.

## electricity

A flow of energy from the movement of charged particles known as electrons.



#### emissions

Materials, such as gases or other matter released during a process, such as manufacturing or transportation.



#### energy

The capacity to do work or the source of power to do work.





#### generate

To produce or create, such as producing electricity from fuel.



#### mitigate

To reduce or balance out the change resulting from another action, such as restoring habitat in one area to balance out a loss of habitat in another.



#### natural systems

The parts, processes, and cycles in an environment, and the interactions among plants, animals, and other organisms with their environment.



# power plant

A place where energy is converted into another form, such as heat into electricity.



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#### radioactive

A material that releases energy in the form of radiation.



#### renewable resource

A natural resource that is naturally replenished at a rate comparable to the rate at which is it consumed by humans.





# utility company

A company that provides electricity, water, or communication services.



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